

Maternal Mortality and Substance Use in Tennessee



In 2017, 78 women in Tennessee died while pregnant or within one year of pregnancy.

33%

of all pregnancy-associated deaths in 2017 had substance use disorder as a contributing factor.



Almost half of pregnancy-associated deaths with substance use disorder as a contributing factor also had a mental health condition.



96% of maternal substance use disorder-related deaths were determined to be preventable.

81% of maternal substance use disorder-related deaths occurred between 43-365 days postpartum.

Prevention Opportunities



Hospitals and Health Care Providers

- Increase screening and referral for substance use disorders
- Improve care coordination services for substance use disorders
- Utilize the controlled substance monitoring database
- Provide alternate pain management options for women during pregnancy



State and Local Agencies

- Expand resources and patient access to treatment options for substance use disorders
- Increase knowledge and access to naloxone
- Strengthen disciplinary action for prescribers of inappropriate quantities of opioid-containing medication



Women and Families

- Learn bystander CPR
- Obtain access to naloxone and be prepared to administer it if a family member has a history of substance use disorder
- Seek access to treatment and resources for substance use disorders
- Seek early access to prenatal care and attend all appointments

Do you need help finding free or state funded addiction treatment and recovery services in Tennessee? Call or text the Tennessee **REDLINE** now at **1 (800) 889-9789**.



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